

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action mailed December 14, 2004 has been carefully considered. Reconsideration in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication of allowance of claims 97-120. Claims 1, 25, 49, and 73 have been canceled, without prejudice. Claims 2, 5, 26, 29, 50, 53, 74, and 77 have been amended to further particularly point out and distinctly claim subject matter regarded as the invention. Support for these changes may be found in the specification, page 21, lines 10-19. The text of claims 3-4, 6-8, 27-28, 30-32, 51-52, 54-56, 75-76, 78-80 is unchanged, but their meaning is changed because they depend from amended claims.

In view of the Examiner's earlier restriction requirement, Applicant retains the right to present claims 9-24, 33-48, 57-72 and 81-96 in a divisional Application.

Interview

On February 7, 2005, an interview was conducted between Examiner Bruckart and Marc S. Hanish, Reg. No 42,626. The Examiner is kindly thanked for granting this interview. During this interview, a draft version of the present amendment was discussed. The Examiner indicated that while the Office Action suggested adding the limitations regarding the watermark being a measurement into claims 2 and others to overcome the prior art, that such an amendment would require another search. The Examiner recommended an RCE be filed.

This amendment is hereby included with an RCE to comply with the Examiner's wishes. With this amendment it is respectfully submitted the claims satisfy the statutory requirements.

Conclusion

It is believed that this Amendment places the above-identified patent application into condition for allowance. Early favorable consideration of this Amendment is earnestly solicited.

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, an interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the number indicated below.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Please charge any additional required fee or credit any overpayment not otherwise paid or credited to our deposit account No. 50-1698.

Respectfully submitted,
THELEN REID & PRIEST LLP



Marc S. Hanish
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